



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

*Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts Branch - BICN
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20530*

NDH:TCG:SC

JAN 11 2012

Muck Rock News
DEPT MR 631
P.O. Box 55819
Somerville, MA 02205-5819

FOI/PA No.: 12-00132-F

Date Received: 1/9/12

Subject of Request: Information pertaining to DOJ Civil Rights Division letters sent to cities and towns located in Massachusetts since January 1, 2009

Dear Requester:

This is to inform you that your request for records from the files of the Civil Rights Division was received by the Division's Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOI/PA) Branch on the date indicated above. Your request has been assigned the FOI/PA number shown above. Please refer to this number in any future correspondence concerning this request. In connection with review of your FOI/PA request, the following paragraph(s) are applicable:

_____ In searching its file for records responsive to your request, _____

located records that originated with the Civil Rights Division. These records were referred to the Civil Rights Division as the originating component for review and release determination. Upon completion of our review, the releasable document(s) will be sent directly to you.

XX As a result of the large number of Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts requests received by the Civil Rights Division, some delay may be encountered in processing your request. In an attempt to treat each requester fairly, we have adopted a policy of processing requests in the approximate order of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible. We appreciate your patience and will provide you with a response at the earliest possible date.

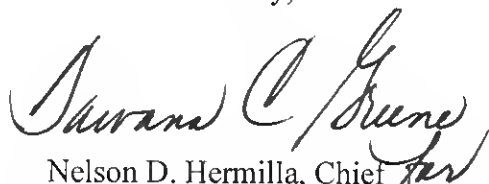
Please note that the Civil Rights Division utilizes multi-track processing in which processing ranges from faster tracks for requests (seeking access to documents already processed for prior requests) to much slower tracks for complex requests involving voluminous amounts of responsive documents or extensive consultation. At your option, you may wish to call the number below and limit the scope of your request to enable your request to be handled in the most expeditious manner available to fulfill your interests.

____ Since your letter did not include authorization or a certification of identity, we will close your file for now. We will re-open your request on receipt of the required authorization forms. The Privacy Act, and the Department of Justice Privacy Act regulation, 28 C.F.R. §16.41, require each person requesting records indexed or maintained under his or her name or another person's name, to furnish the Department with proof of identity/consent to disclosure. Please complete the enclosed form and return it directly to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts Branch, Civil Rights Division, US Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.

Should you wish to appeal the identification/consent requirement, you may do so by writing, within sixty days of the date on this letter to the Director, Office of Information Policy, United States Department of Justice, 1425 New York Avenue, N.W. Building, Suite 11050, Washington, DC 20530. The envelope should be marked "FOI/PA Appeal." Following review by the Department, judicial review of the decision of the Attorney General is available in the United States District Court in the judicial district in which you reside, in which you have your principal place of business, or in the District of Columbia.

If you have any further questions, contact this office by calling (202) 514-4210.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nelson D. Hermilla". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name being particularly prominent.

Nelson D. Hermilla, Chief
Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts Branch
Civil Rights Division